IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

Takuji HIMENO et al.

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METHOD

Examiner:

Dastouri, Mehrdad

Art Unit:

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Notice of Allowance:

March 24, 2010

Confirmation No.:

2788

745 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10151

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC FILING

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Maria Lapitan

(Typed or printed name_of person signing transmittal)

RESPONSE TO EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Mail Stop Issue Fee Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance, which accompanied the Notice of Allowance mailed March 24, 2010. To the extent the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance states, implies or is construed to mean that the claims are allowable over the prior art of record because the Examiner believes the claims should be

interpreted to include one or more features or limitations not recited therein, Applicants' attorney disagrees with such an interpretation. Moreover, it is Applicants' contention that there is no particular limitation in the allowed claims that is more critical than any other. The issuance of the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance should not be construed as a surrender by Applicants of any subject matter. It is the intent of Applicants, by their attorney, to construe the allowed claims so as to cover the invention disclosed in the instant application and all equivalents to which the claimed invention is entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

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